

In-Fur-Nation

Your Guide to the World of Furry Fandom

Volume 16, Number 2

All The News We Get, We Print!

Spring, 2005

"You seriously taking advice from a man who hasn't had a date since the Ming dynasty?" Fu Dog, to Jake Long, on Disney Channel's *American Dragon - Jake Long*

Springtime, and what a busy time it is – and leading right into what's going to be a busy summer, it seems! More on that later – first off, more of the furry news we think you need (and want) to know!



In March, **Fred Patten** (long-time furry and anime fan, collector, reviewer, fanzine editor, and general storehouse of fandom history) suffered a stroke. Though he quickly received emergency medical attention, as of this writing he's not recovered most of the use of his right side. Being unable to administer his huge collection of science fiction, anime, and more, with his blessing his collection was donated to several fannish institutions in Southern California, including the Eaton Collection of Science Fiction at the University of California Riverside, and the International Animated Film Society (ASIFA Hollywood). As Fred's Medicare will not kick in for a few years, and he's without a pension until then, Fred needs assistance to cover his massive medical expenses – But, due to the rules of California's Medicaid program, he can't

accept donations made directly to him. Several of Fred's associates are currently working to set up a Friends of Fred Patten fund in order to accept such donations. Keep your eyes on these pages for more information as it becomes available – and please, keep Fred in your prayers. [The CaliFur convention in Southern California will be dedicating half of its charity collections to Fred this year]

The newest CGI film to come out of Dreamworks SKG is *Madagascar*, hitting theaters on May 27. Starring the voices of **Ben Stiller**, **Jada Pinkett Smith**, **Chris Rock**, and **David Schwimmer**, this comedy follows the misadventures of a group of New York zoo animals (lion, hippo, zebra, and giraffe, respectively) who end up traveling to Africa – despite knowing nothing about life in the wild. On their journey they face a weird tribe of lemurs and a conspiracy of penguins. According to Hollywood sources, a lot is riding on the success of this film, as the box office returns of CGI films have begun to dip. Dreamworks is going all out with marketing for this film, so look for tie-in books, trading cards, and lots of other goodies on the shelves.

Disney's new CGI film *Valiant*, produced by Vanguard Entertainment (started by folks who worked on *Shrek*) is slowly working its way into theaters. Released in the U.K. in March, it comes to North America this August, with surprisingly little fanfare. The story, in case you don't know, follows the adventures of a young pigeon in World War II England who, in spite of his young age, longs to be a carrier pigeon in the war effort. The voice cast includes a host of British actors, including **Ewan McGregor** (as Valiant), **Ricky Gervais** (*The Office*), **Jim Broadbent**, **Tim Curry**, **John Cleese**, and **Hugh Laurie**. **McGregor** is also the lead voice in the current Blue Sky Studios CGI film, *Robots*.

News from www.rottentomatoes.com/news/: **Brian and Lisa Henson**, children of the legendary **Jim Henson** and head honchos at the production company that bears his name, recently announced plans for *The Power of the Dark Crystal*, which of course will be a sequel to the 1982 fantasy film *The Dark Crystal*. Screenwriter **David Odell**, who penned the original film as well as the first *Muppet Movie*, is on board for the second spin, although a director has yet to be announced. (The original *Crystal* was co-directed by **Jim Henson** and **Frank Oz**.) According to *Variety*, the sequel "is set many years after the first film. Original heroes Jen and Kira are now king and queen, and must fight to save their kingdom when the crystal is once again split." Production on *The Power of the Dark Crystal* is set to begin later this year, with a release date scheduled for early 2007.

Also from Rotten Tomatoes, **Scott Weinberg** writes: "Variety brings us news of the newest big-screen adaptation inspired by a rampant fad. And when you consider how much coin WB has earned on stuff like *Pokemon* and *Mighty Morphin'*

Power Rangers, this latest news should come as little surprise. *NeoPets*, for those not in the know, are cute little virtual pets who get fed, get fat, and fall asleep. According to Variety, WB and *NeoPets* have already firm a concept for the first film and have begun talks with an animation director they would not name. Plans are already in place for stuffed animals, video games and McDonald's Happy Meal tie-ins. Parents, watch your wallets!

And while we're at it, this too from **Scott Weinberg**: "Rope of Silicon was clever enough to scan a full-page *Variety* ad that divulges the complete voice cast for Universal Pictures' upcoming *Curious George* adaptation. Most of you already know that **Will Ferrell** is on board to supply the voice of 'the man in the yellow hat,' but now we all know that the rest of the cast includes **Drew Barrymore**, **David Cross**, **Dick Van Dyke**, **Eugene Levy**, **Joan Plowright**, and **Ed O'Ross**. Director **Matthew O'Callaghan** (*The Little Mermaid*) is behind the helm, and Universal plans to unleash *George* in February of '06." AND: "The *Hollywood Reporter* brings us news that Fox and Blue Sky Studios have won the rights to bring **Dr. Seuss'** classic *Horton Hears a Who* to the big screen. Blue Sky's first two projects were the well received *Ice Age* and *Robots*, so clearly **Chris Meledandri** (president of Fox Animation & Blue Sky head honcho) has the right crew for the job. Unlike the two most recent **Seuss** adaptations, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and *Cat in the Hat*, this project will (obviously) be a completely CG project."

Also in the works: A new *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* feature film, this time produced in CGI 3D by Imagi Studios out of Hong Kong. Imagi made a name for themselves by performing most of the computer animation duties on last year's *Father of the Pride*.

New on the horizon from the Spanish company Filmax is a new feature-length 2D animated film, *Gisaku*. In modern-day Spain, a diverse group of characters come together to battle an evil demon disguised as a businessman – if they can put aside their own differences long enough. Among those characters are a 17th-century samurai, magically transported to the modern world; a demon that's been transformed into an adorable lion-cub-like creature; and a lynx who's been transformed into a half-human beast with vengeance on his mind. Having already screened the feature at international film festivals, Filmax is looking for a distributor now.

News from the annual MipTV convention in France, looking at some of the new animated TV shows that are searching for markets and distribution. From Breakthrough Entertainment (home of the popular series *Atomic Betty*) comes *Rocket Rodents*, the story of five buck-toothed cut-ups who wind up in a spaceship on their paws. MarVista Entertainment has hooked up with Canada's Waterfront Pictures to bring us *Romeo & Juliet: Sealed With A Kiss*. That's right friends, **Shakespeare**'s classic lovers done as young seals. MarVista is also distributing a one-hour adventure special, *The Avenging Apes of Africa*, courtesy of Grace Animation. Speaking of Apes, BKN has struck a deal with Warner Home Video to distribute their direct-to-DVD feature *Kong – King of Atlantis*. (Can you believe some of these titles?) That's (hopefully) going to be a lead-in to a new *King Kong* animated TV series. *Panshel's World* (featuring the adventures of winged pandas who live in the clouds) is a new CGI TV series based on the work of Japanese illustrator **Masaru Houri** and animated by P&PM of France. Two new funny-animal shows for the preschool set include *Zigby and Friends*

(based on the adventures of a young zebra, created by **Brian Paterson**) from Yoram Gross-EM.TV, and *Poppy Cat* (based on the books by **Laura Jones**) from Zenith Entertainment. Also be on the lookout for *Jane and the Dragon*, a joint venture from Nelvana (*Redwall*) and WETA Digital (*Lord of the Rings*) about a young girl who wants to be a knight, and her companion – a 300-year-old dragon.

Krypto the Super Dog is a new animated series that premiered on Cartoon Network in April. This from www.supermanhomepage.com: "Krypto the Superdog chronicles the comedic canine adventures of Metropolis' super dog. As a puppy, Krypto was a test pilot on the planet Krypton. After Jor-El, Superman's father, launches Krypto into space, something goes wrong, and Krypto goes into suspended animation—headed straight for Earth! By the time he arrives, Krypto's a full-grown yet fun-loving dog, looking for a friend and a new family. Luckily, he meets Kevin Whitney, who is new to Metropolis and could use a pal too. Kevin's also the only human who can have a conversation with Krypto, thanks to a special intergalactic communicator that Krypto brought with him. Endowed with an awesome array of superpowers—from heat vision to superior strength to flying—Krypto partners with Kevin in a never-ending crusade to fight the evil forces that threaten the safety and well-being of both humans and animals in Metropolis." From the source, folks. For those into 3-D collecting, a series of maquettes of the main characters (Krypto the Super Dog, Ace the Bat-Hound, and Streaky the Super-Cat) are available from your local comic dealer.



< Image c. 2005 Bandai >

We got this from www.animationnewsworld.com: *Magical Meow Meow Taruto*, released by Bandai Entertainment. *Taruto* is a little cat who has just moved to a new city with her master's family. Taruto spends her days making friends and exploring her new home town. She also has a knack for getting herself into trouble. And it turns out that Taruto just might be a legendary magical princess. Almost none of Taruto's friends believe that she can use magic or that she's a princess, but Taruto is determined to prove it to them. But Taruto's magic is so unpredictable, you never know what's going to happen when she uses it." You heard it here folks. 12 episodes on video and DVD.

The animated series based on *The Neverending Story* feature films has been released on a new DVD from Funimation. Bastian Bux, a young human boy, travels to the land of Fantasia to save the young empress from evil forces with the help of his friends – among them the luck dragon Falkor, and a walking talking tree named Barktroll.

More DVDs to look for (on the shelves this spring) include *Father of the Pride*, *The Complete Series* (with several episodes that were never shown, including the un-air'd pilot); *Dastardly & Muttley in "Stop That Pigeon!"* (Hanna-Barbera strangeness from the 1970's); *Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law Volume 1* (Hanna-Barbera strangeness from this century!); *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* Seasons 2 and 3;

and *Redwall*. *The Siege Volume 1* (from Nelvana and Funimation). Also look for *Dragon's World: A Fantasy Made Real*, presenting the un-cut version of the Animal Planet special about the "history" of dragons (narrated by Ian Holm, unlike the TV version which was narrated by Patrick Stewart).

Disney presents the return of *Tarzan* – the younger version. In *Tarzan II* (coming this June to DVD), the "son of man" is still a young boy, having fun with his friends Terk and Tantor, and (often) running afowl of Kerchak, the lead gorilla. When one misstep goes too far, Tarzan runs away to the far mountains – and an encounter with the mysterious and frightening creature known as Zugor. This new 2D animation features new songs by Phil Collins, and the vocal work of (among others) Glenn Close and George Carlin.

When the flying pig drawn by a young boy named Spencer comes to life, Spencer discovers that he has the power to make all of his dreams and drawing into reality. Unfortunately, some of them run wild – and it's up to Spencer and his pig Sunny to stop them! *Tokyo Pig* is a new translated anime series, available this June on DVD from Miramax Home Entertainment.

Everyone's favorite four-armed blue alien returns to feature films in the new Disney DVD *Lilo & Stitch 2: Stitch Has A Glitch*, available on August 30. Just as Stitch is beginning to settle into his new life on Earth, a glitch in his programming causes him to start to revert back to his former destructive ways – endangering himself and all his alien cousins on Earth, to say nothing of his new human family! Interestingly, for this film *Dakota Fanning* (*Hide and Seek*) has replaced *Daveigh Chase* (*Spirited Away*, *The Ring*) as the voice of Lilo, and the MPAA has given the film a PG rating – a first for a Disney direct-to-video film. To find out more, check out <http://www.ultimatedisney.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=6983>

New on the shelves from Dark Horse Comics is *Billy the Kid's Old-Time Oddities*, a full-color 4-issue miniseries from **Eric Powell** and **Kyle Hotz**. The famous outlaw, having faked his own death and needing a place to hide out, finds himself hooked up with a frontier traveling sideshow that includes a wolf-man, an alligator-man, a spider-man, and more.

From Lynx Studios and Alias Enterprises comes *Lethal/Instinct* (aka *Lethal Enforcer*), a new monthly comic in full color by **Soares**, **Baehr**, **Thompson**, and **JDson**. Frank Aaron is a police officer with a problem – he's also a werewolf. So he hooks up with "The Special Division" of the police force, dealing in superhero and paranormal cases. Also from Alias, look for *Parkins' Land* (written and illustrated by **Gary Shipman**), the award-winning comic series (often compared to the *Narnia* books) now coming out monthly in full color. And in the new comic series *OZ: F5 – Gale Force*, an adult Dorothy Gale returns to Oz (armed with a super-soaker!), joined by the kung fu master Scarecrow, a kilt-wearing warrior Lion-king, and an axe-wielding metal man to fight the forces of the Evil Witch of the West. (It's brought to you in full color by **Madrigal**, **Ottley**, **Coker**, and **Beaulieu**).

New from Ape Entertainment is the *Go-Go Gorilla and the Jungle Crew Summer Special*, a full-color one-shot by **Hedgecock**, **Hall**, and **Evans**. The tropical paradise of Jungle City is protected by a crack team of funny-animal superheroes, under the leadership of Go-Go Gorilla. The comic features a cover by *Captain Carrot* creator **Scott Shaw**!

More stuff for fans of "classic funny animals": *Felix the Cat Silly Stories* is available now from Felix Comics. A variety of writers and artists present new black & white tales (tails?) of the famous cat and his comedic adventures.

And speaking of funny animals, two of the world's most famous ones now have their own trade paperbacks from DC Comics. *Bugs Bunny Volume 1: What's Up Doc?* and *Daffy Duck Volume 1: You're Despicable!* both feature full-color adventures in digest size (by a variety of artists and writers) with the famous looney-toons and their friends – and adversaries.

And now for something rather different... In *Wildsiderz* (a new full-color comic series from Wildstorm), five teenage friends create holographic force-fields that give them the powers (and, partially, the appearance) of various animals. This new series (brought to you by **J. Scott Campbell** (*Danger Girl*) and **Andy Hartnell**) starts this summer, with a special Issue #0 coming out that features character backgrounds and introductions.

More Oz stuff (isn't there always?), this time from Antarctic Press. *Oz the Manga* by **David Hutchison** "re-imagines" the classic tale of Dorothy Gale and her friends as a black & white Japanese comic.

In the tradition of Gary Larson's *The Far Side* comes *The Fly Chronicles*, a new black & white trade paperback from Active Images. **Michael Blaney** presents a collection of spot cartoons featuring a look at life through the faceted eyes of flies.

A new release from iBooks (publishers of *BlackSad* and *BlackSad – Arctic Nation*): *BlackSad 3 – The Sketch Files* by **Juan Diaz Canales** and **Juanjo Guarnido**. Take a look at the creation of this graphic novel series, with newly released character design sketches, character backgrounds, production sketches and more.

New from Radio Comix is the *Furrlough Finest Collection*, Volume 2. Celebrating over 13 years of the best in anthropomorphic action and adventure stories, this 64-page black & white collection brings together stories and art from the early, out-of-print issues, including works by **Curt Wilcken**, **Phil Morrissey**, **Chris Whalen**, **Mark Moore**, **Dean Lee Norton**, and more. Emerging from the Sin Factory imprint, look for the premier of *Anaconda Davida*, featuring erotic stories and art (in black & white) dedicated to the sensuality of snakes and nagas. Yes.

The *Quinn the Raccoon Special* is a new one-shot black & white comic coming to us this summer from Shanda Fantasy Arts. Shanda the Panda's adopted daughter Quinn, now a teenager, lives and loves through her senior year in stories brought to you by **Curtis**, **Crusoe**, **Valentini**, **Loomis**, and **Clark**.

More collections and trade paperbacks: *Voltaire's Deadly Evil Teddy* returns in his 3rd graphic novel, spreading evil and cuteness all at once. Helping out this time are *Roman Dirge* (*Lenore*) and none other than *Neil Gaiman*.

The Wildstorm comic series *Thundercats: Enemy's Pride* has been released as a new full-color trade paperback. The Thundercats are in a panic when Lion-O begins to act strangely... and then, very dangerously!

The unusual graphic artist known only as **Jason** returns with *Why Are You Doing This?* from Fantagraphics Books. In his first full-color graphic novel, Jason follows the misadventures of a sad young furry who's wrongly accused of murder. Critics call it a Hitchcock script in comic-book form.

WE3, the acclaimed 3-issue full-color comic miniseries by **Grant Morrison** and **Frank Quitely**, has been collected into a trade paperback, available from Vertigo. Three common pets are transformed into military killer robots by a mad engineer. The hunt is on for them when they escape, looking for that mysterious paradise they know only as "Home".

Coming this June from Arcana Comics Studio: *Fuzzy Bunnies from Hell*. There's a title you're going to notice, yes? "Hell hath no fury like a demon rabbit scorned!" In this case, the demon rabbit returns from Hell to make another attempt at conquering the world of humans. This full-color, 120-page trade paperback is brought to you by **Powell, Nash, Toth, and Bowland**.

Also this June, *Bone, Volume 1: Out of Boneville* will be re-released as a soft-cover trade paperback. This time however, it's a full-color edition released by Graphix (an imprint of Scholastic Publishers). Another new way to look at this award-winning fantasy series.

Odd Numbers is the new book from **Michel Gagne'**, creator of *Insanely Twisted Rabbits*, *Frenzied Fauna*, and more. This full-color, hardcover picture book (from Gagne International Press) features outlandish beings, incredible mutations, and insane monsters. Tasty.

From DK Publishing comes *Pink Panther: The Ultimate Guide* (in hardcover, by **Jerry Beck**). It chronicles the history of the cool pink cat from DePatie-Freleng, through the movie intros, cartoons, TV series and more. The book also includes an exclusive DVD featuring five original *Pink Panther* cartoons.

New for the d20 FRP-gaming system is *The Complete Guide to Werewolves*. This from www.goodman-games.com: *The Complete Guide to Werewolves* takes a comprehensive view of its legendary subject. With material based on mythology, it offers new options for werewolf characters, including not just the usual assortment of feats and prestige classes, but also rules for breeds, lunar influence, and weaknesses or "thorns." Every aspect of the lycanthropic process is examined, from life stages to mindset to new lycanthropic diseases, and the book includes a selection of powerful NPCs and new monsters ready to be inserted into any campaign. *The Complete Guide to Werewolves* is 100% world-neutral and stand-alone, and can be easily integrated into any campaign.



< Image c. 2005,
Goodman Games >

Obituaries

One of the grand masters of science fiction art, and more recently a guest speaker at furry conventions and other events, **Frank Kelly Freas** passed away in January at the age of 83. Kelly was an eleven-time Hugo Award winning illustrator of cover and interior art for science fiction, fantasy, advertising, and MAD Magazine. Active in the science fiction field from 1950 until weeks before his death, Kelly illustrated stories by writers such as **Isaac Asimov**, **Robert Heinlein**, **Arthur C. Clarke**, **A. E. Van Vogt**, **Poul Anderson**, and **Frederik Pohl**. A member of First Fandom and the Dorsai Irregulars, Kelly was an official NASA mission artist and his space posters hang in the Smithsonian. He was commissioned by the Skylab astronauts to design their crew patch and did album and CD covers for Queen. In 2000 Kelly was elected a Fellow of the International Association of Astronomical Artists.

Perhaps not as notable to furry fans, but notable to comic book fans the world over: **Will Eisner**, comic-book innovator and creator of the modern graphic novel, died in January following quadruple bypass heart surgery. He was 87. A talented artist and writer, Mr. Eisner was best known for *The Spirit*, which followed the exploits of a masked detective on worldwide adventures. In 1978, Mr. Eisner published *A Contract With God*, the first comic to appear in novel form. He continued until his death to be a prolific creator and educator. For his contributions to the comic-book medium, the industry named its annual accolades The Will Eisner Comic Industry Awards in 1987. "Will Eisner was our Orson Welles," said **Neil Gaiman**, author of comic-book series *The Sandman* and the Hugo Award-winning novel *American Gods*. "He came into comics when everybody else saw them as cheap and disposable. Will perceived comics as an art form. Not only that, he had the chops and skill and vision to create comics that showed other people that they were an art form. There's a reason the Oscars of comic books are the Eisners."

One very furry science fiction author: **Andre Norton**, 93, the "Grand Dame of Science Fiction and Fantasy," author, poet, editor, whose published works span seven decades, died of congestive heart failure in March. Andre Norton was born Alice Mary Norton on February 17, 1912, in Cleveland Ohio. She wrote more than 130 novels, nearly one hundred short stories, and edited numerous anthologies in the science fiction, fantasy, mystery, and western genres. She the first woman to be a SFWA Grand Master and to be inducted in the Science Fiction and Fantasy Hall of Fame. She received Skylark, Balrog, and World Fantasy awards, and was the first woman to win the Gandalf Grand Master of Fantasy award. Through the years, she edited several anthologies for Martin Greenberg's Tekno Books Company, including the long-running *Cat Fantastic* series, which began in 1969, and *Renaissance Faire*, which was published by DAW Books in early February of 2005. Many authors and editors collaborated with her. Among them were: **Robert Adams**, **Alicia Austin**, **Robert Bloch**, **Marion Zimmer Bradley**, **A.C. Crispin**, **Rosemary Edghill**, **Martin H. Greenberg**, **P.M. Griffin**, **Grace Allen Hogarth**, **John Kaufman**, **Mercedes Lackey**, **Dorothy Madiee**, **Patricia Matthews**, **Julian May**, **Lyn McConchie**, **Phyllis Miller**, **Sasha Miller**, **Jean Rabe**, **Mary Schaub**, **Susan Schwartz**, **Sherwood Smith**, and **Ingrid Zierhut**.

"**Why do you think Grandpa's only friend is a 600-year old shar pei?**" Grandpa (the Master), to Jake Long, on Disney Channel's *American Dragon – Jake Long*

Furry Stuff has ConFurence Stuff! The original ConFurence General Store (for ConFurences 0 – 10) has moved to the new Furry Stuff web portal. Check them out at www.furrystuff.com to find out more – soon, pictures of what's available will be up on-line. Three of the popular ConFurence T-Shirt designs are still available for a limited time: "Furries in Force" (black on honey-color) by **Eric Schwartz** from CF7, "Furries in Love" (black and pink on grey) by **Rachael Cawley** from CF9, and "Sydney's World" (Sydney on a colored globe on green) by **Ken Sample** from CF10. Plus, a very few of **Mitch Beiro's** colorful "Furries in Space" T-shirts remain (write for sizes available). They also still offer the *ConFurence Seven Highlights Video*, as well as the *ConFurence Eight – Music and Mirth* and *ConFurence Nine – Furries in Love* highlights videos, and the special combination video from CF5 (*Furries in Space!*) and CF6 (*Magic and Transformation*). Not to mention many cool prints and extra Souvenir Books from past ConFurences! To find a complete list, visit the Furry Stuff web site, or send them an SASE at: Furry Stuff, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

Stay with the Herd! So, we hear you say, how do I keep up my Subscription to *In-Fur-Nation*? We're glad you asked! A subscription to *In-Fur-Nation* will bring you even more of what furry fans are looking for around the globe. Find out what to look for, and where to go! It's now brought right to your doorstep four times a year (winter, spring, summer, and fall), and still for just a whopping \$5.00 for a year's subscription. That's right, for a year. Just send a check made out to "Furry Stuff" (and note it's for *In-Fur-Nation*), or heck, just send a \$5.00 bill in a darkened envelope. (Trust us, it's an old tradition in the 'zine community. It works.) To subscribe, to find out more info, or to send us notes for our Furry News, write us at: In-Fur-Nation, P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92842-1958.

A Note to the staff members of our many Furry Conventions: Hey! We wanna help you get the word out! Having a cool-looking web site is a neat thing, but remember: There are still a significant number of fans out there (furry and otherwise) who don't use the World Wide Web, or who don't use it to its full potential. For them, there's this cool old thing folks on the Internet call *Snail Mail*. That's where we come in! Send us information, and let us help you get the word out to over 1,000 furry fans, artists, dealers, and publishers in the U.S., Canada, Europe, Japan... Look below for our reasonable ad rates, and don't forget... send us text blurbs or web sites that might be looking to trade issues!

A Request to Our Readers: Hey, got a favorite comic or book store that carries your favorite furry titles, or that you wish would carry more? Give us their address! We'll send them a copy of *In-Fur-Nation* each quarter, and keep them abreast of the kind of comics and media that you would like to see on their shelves! Remember, they can't order it if they don't know it's out there! As an alternate: Know of any good comic zines or web sites that might be looking to trade issues?

Guess what? In-Fur-Nation is looking for Field Reporters! As an on-going feature, we're going to present profiles of furry creators and furry-oriented companies that are helping to promote products and media of interest to furry animal fans all over. So, like to help out? Know a comic book creator, animator, publisher, or other such person in the field who'd like to discuss what furries mean to them, or to the world? Talk to them, write down what they say... then give us

a write-up, about 300-500 words, and we'll include it as a blurb in an upcoming INF, and give you credit for it. [We do maintain the right to edit for clarity and length, mind you.] And hey, we're looking for **furry convention reviews and anecdotes** too! Send hard copies to the Furry Stuff address above, or, you can e-mail your submission to **Rod O'Riley** at rodo64@hotmail.com.

Advertising in In-Fur-Nation: For those who've been asking, ads in In-Fur-Nation come in these sizes: 1/8-page "business card" size for \$5.00 per issue, and 1/4-page size (4 1/2" tall by 3 1/4" wide) for \$10.00 per issue. Full-page inclusions can also be arranged for \$50.00 an issue. Check should be made out to Furry Stuff. Send camera-ready art and text to P.O. Box 1958, Garden Grove, CA 92642-1958, or send email to rodo64@hotmail.com

(Many thanks to all the people who helped provide information for this issue both by mail and via Internet! Invaluable help was also received from the web masters of the various furry conventions out there.)

Furry (and sorta-furry) Conventions coming your way this summer!

Anime Expo 2004

Anime Expo, the largest gathering in North America for fans of Japanese animation and comics, returns to Anaheim on July 1 – 4, 2005. Officially hosted by the Anaheim Convention Center, the Expo will once again also take place at the Anaheim Hilton, Anaheim Marriott, and West Coast Anaheim Hotels. As usual, Anime Expo features not only a giant dealer's room of anime-related products, but literally dozens of anime industry veterans as guest speakers – Not to mention tons of premier screenings and live performances. It's all yours for \$45.00 (by mail), or \$50.00 (at the door, or through PayPal – visit the Expo web site for more info!). Lower rates are available for single-day and two-day passes at the door, too. For more information, write The Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation, 1733 S. Douglass Road, Ste. G, Anaheim, CA 92806. Or, keep in touch with their ever-expanding guest and programming roster by visiting www.anime-expo.org.

Anthrocon 2004

It's time for Heroes at Anthrocon! Join them July 7-10, 2005 – now in its new home at the Wyndham Hotel at Franklin Plaza in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



< Image c. 2005,
Mirage Studios >

Currently, the largest anthropomorphic convention in the world! All the finer aspects of anthropomorphic, or more commonly, "furry" fandom, are celebrated here. The special theme for Anthrocon 2005 is "Heroes". This year their Guests of Honor include **Peter Laird** (one of the original creators of the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*) and **Timothy Albee** (creator and animator of the fan favorite

Kaze: Ghost Warrior). And, don't forget, this year Anthrocon will be hosting the presentation of the 2004 *Ursa Major Awards*, celebrating and rewarding fandom's favorite creations (visit www.ursamajorawards.org for more details).

Attendance Memberships are \$40.00 until June 24, 2005, and \$50.00 at the door. Sponsor / Super-Sponsor memberships are available too. Rooms at the Wyndham Hotel are: Currently sold out! Check back at the web site frequently for more information on overflow hotels. For More Information: Anthrocon, Inc., P.O. Box 270, Devault, PA 19432. Their e-mail is anthrocon@anthrocon.org, and their Web site is <http://www.anthrocon.org>.

San Diego Comic Convention & Califur-Diego

One of the largest gatherings of fandom in the world (certainly in North America!), every summer a throng of comic book, animation, and pop-culture fans descends on the San Diego shoreline for four days of fun and activities. The list of guests and industry professionals is too big to even list here. The Dealers' Room is, quite simply, the largest in existence. Literally hundreds of comic book publishers, artists, collectors, game designers, movie production companies and more, all spread out over (we're not kidding here) nearly a square mile. In among them, of course, are lots of companies and artists who do furry art – among them Radio Comix, Antarctic Press, Mirage, MU, and many many small press companies. This year Comic Con takes place July 13 – 17, at the San Diego Convention Center. Adult 4-day memberships are \$65.00, with daily memberships ranging from \$15.00 (Sunday) to \$30.00 (Saturday). Visit their web site at <http://www.comic-con.org/index.php> for more information on all the events and activities.

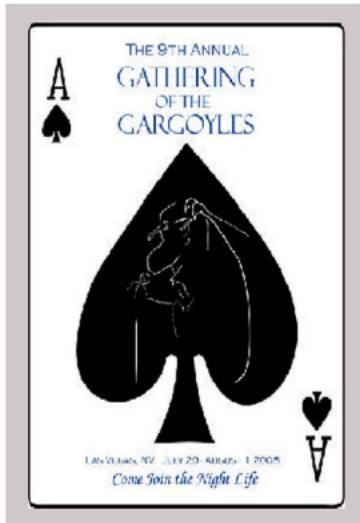
If you're looking for some more furry stuff at SDCC, it'll be there! FENEC Adventures (the folks who bring you Califur each spring) will be putting on a special one-day Furry Party after the big convention on Saturday night (July 16). Nicknamed "Califur-Diego", this party is so large it takes over the main ballroom at a hotel not far from the Convention Center! Lots of artists show up, and fur-suiters drop in too (yes we have a place to change). Furry dealers are welcome to set up and sell from their tables – there's no extra charge! Califur Diego takes place from 8:00 pm until they kick us out at the Horton Grand Hotel, 311 Island Avenue (corner of 3rd Street, 2 blocks north of the Convention Center). We're asking \$5.00 a person to cover the room expenses – but this is a donation, not an admission fee! No one will be turned away because they can't pay.

Eurofurence XI

The annual European gathering of furry fans, this year celebrating "Songs of the Old Ages", will take place July 21 – 24, 2005, in Nuremberg, Germany. "Our mission is to give everybody a chance to remember or discover a bit of the wonder that got them interested in this fandom, to learn new things about parts of this fandom they did not know before, and to have lots of fun while doing so!" The special Musical Guest of Honor at Eurofurence XI will be **Heather Alexander**. Regular Memberships at Eurofurence are \$130 EU now, and \$150 EU at the door (if they haven't sold out). Remember, your registration to Eurofurence also includes room and board. Visit their web site at <http://www.eurofurence.org/EF11/> for more information on the location, how to register, and other info.

The Gathering of the Gargoyles 2005

The annual Gathering for fans of Disney's popular TV series *Gargoyles* comes to roost in the city that never sleeps – Las Vegas, Nevada! The Gathering will be held July 29 – August 1, 2005, at the Palace Station Hotel and Casino. Rooms are \$89.00 per night for 1 or 2 guests; more for more. Confirmed guests include **Greg Weisman** (Series Creator, Writer, Supervising Producer), **Thom Adcox-Hernandez** and **Keith David** (voice actors), and **Dennis J. Woodyard** (storyboard artist and director), as well as numerous gaming, costuming, and story-writing experts.



< Image c. 2005, Gathering of the Gargoyles >

Memberships are currently \$55.00 US – but you have to register on line now. At-the-door, membership will be more. There are also tickets to the Banquet and Gathering T-shirts (see the design above) that can be purchased on line. To find out more, write to them (in the US) at: Gargoyles Fans dot org, Inc., 3511 Herron Court, San Antonio, TX 78217-3228. Or, you can check out their web site at <http://gathering.gargoyles-fans.org/>.

Watch this space in our summer issue for more info on Camp Feral! (August 27 – 31, in Ontario, Canada), Mephit Furmeet (September 2 – 4, in Memphis, Tennessee), Conifur Northwest (October 21 – 23, in Tacoma, Washington), Oklaocon (October 27 – 30, near Watonga, Oklahoma), Howloween (October 29 in Vancouver, Canada), and The Midwest FurFest (November 18 – 20, in Woodfield, Illinois). Whew!

We'll see you this Summer! Rod O'Riley, ed-otter



PLEASE RECYCLE

Listen up, Furry Fans!



<Image c. 2005, Dreamworks>

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